

ENGLISH

Paper : I

Full Marks – 100

Time – 2 hours and 30 minutes

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Write a paragraph in about 150 words on any *one* of the following topics : 15
 - (a) The problem of unemployment in India
 - (b) The necessity of conserving rain water
 - (c) The forests of Tripura.
2. Prepare a newspaper report in about 150 words developing the points given below : 20
 - (a) The 500 year-old Puttingal Devi temple of Kerala fireworks on last day of annual festival a must-see in South Kerala. Went wrong this year on April 9 during final leg of the completion ... fire splinter from cracker hit storeroom ... massive explosion...

[Turn over

building to rubble ... some 113 deaths ...
grievously injured 350. Temple roof badly
damaged ... many nearby houses affected.
After absconding for a few days, seven office
bearers of the temple committee surrendered
on April 12.

Or

- (b) An amount of Rs. 4 lakhs was looted and one person shot dead outside a bank in Kolkata. The incident took place in Gariahat, Kolkata. ... The man was stopped by four persons demanded bag containing cash ... man resisted ... fired at died on the spot ... robbers snatched bag... fled police looking for them.

3. Attempt any *one* of the following. (word limit 150 words) : 15

- (a) Write a letter to the Editor of a local daily about the dangers of reckless driving by some drivers of motor buses, lorries and motor bikes.

Or

- (b) Write a letter to the Mayor of Agartala Municipal Corporation complaining about the inconvenience caused by the setting up of a spice factory in your locality.

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below :

(a) The Romans had discovered that, by mixing volcanic ashes in proper proportions, they could secure a cement which would harden under water. They named it *puzzolana* and made much use of it in their water supply and harbour works. Long before this time, since the dawn of history, lime had been used. Some of it, now called hydraulic lime, had the power of hardening more or less under water and was doubtless used in that way. Not until the eighteenth century, however, was it discovered that any limestone which happens to contain clay has this quality, while common limestone which contains no clay will harden only in air. In 1824 Joseph Aspdin invented Portland cement. He gave it that name because it looked like the stone in the cliffs of Portland, Dorset. He mixed ground limestone and clay and burned them in a furnace until they became fused, or joined into a mass of clinker. He then ground the clinker into a fine powder and found that he had cement with extraordinary qualities which was destined to revolutionize construction throughout the

world. Portland cement not only require the presence of air to harden, but will actually become far stronger if it is allowed to harden under water. A few hours after it has been mixed it sets (that is, becomes rigid), but it becomes harder and stronger for a long time afterwards.

- (i) State the advantages for cement making of hydraulic lime compared with common lime. What element in its composition gives it this advantage ? 5
 - (ii) Why do you think the Romans found *puzzolana* especially suitable for harbour works ? 4
 - (iii) Give words which mean the opposite of :
joined presence, construction. 2
 - (iv) Name the piece of instrument used by Aspdin. 2
 - (v) Distinguish between 'invention' and 'discovery'. 2
- (b) Hustle is hurry, and hurry implies either a miscalculation of time or deliberately lost time generally the latter— which time must be made up. Not that lost time ever can be made up ; time lost is lost forever— you

cannot possibly find it again like a dropped six pence. A sense of value of time — that is, of the best way to divide one's time into one's various activities is an essential preliminary to efficient work ; it is also the only method of avoiding hurry. People without a due sense of time spend half their working lives in a hurry. They disorganise all their world by unpunctuality — which is a direct and prolific cause of hurry and hustle. Every efficient person carries a clock inside his head, and this wonderful self-winding clock rings a warning signal at frequent intervals.

- (i) What are the causes of hurry and hustle ? 5
- (ii) How could one avoid being in a hurry? 5
- (iii) Why are efficient men never in hurry ? 5

5. Make a precis of the following passage and add a suitable title to it. 12+3=15

- (a) Sir Isaac Newton, after deep meditation, discovered that there was a law in nature, called attraction, by virtue of which every particle of matter, that is, everything of which the world is composed, draws towards it

every other particle of matter with a force proportionate to its size. Lay two marbles on the table. They have a tendency to come together. But they are also attracted by the table, by the ground, and everything besides in the room ; and these different attractions pull against each other. Now, the earth is a prodigious mass of matter, to which nothing near it can bear any comparison. It draws, therefore, with a mighty force, everything on its surface, which is the cause why all bodies fall. And this is called the gravitation of bodies or that gives them weight. When I lift up anything, I act contrary to this force, for which reason the object I lift seems heavy to me, and heavier the more matter it contains ; since with the increase of matter the attraction of the earth for it increases also.

Or

(b) Write a summary of the following passage :

15

A proper consideration of the value of time will inspire habits of punctuality. It is also the duty of gentlemen and the necessity of men of business. Nothing begets confidence in a man sooner than the practice of this virtue and nothing shakes confidence sooner than the want of it. He who holds to his

appointment and does not keep you waiting for him shows that he has regard for your time as well as for his own. Thus, punctuality is one of the modes by which we testify our personal respect for those whom we are called upon to meet in the business of life. It is also conscientiousness, in a measure, for an appointment is a contract, expressed or implied, and he, who does not keep it, breaks faith as well as dishonestly uses other people's time, and thus, inevitably loses character. We naturally come to the conclusion that the person, who is careless about time, will be careless about business, and that he is not the one to be trusted with the transaction of importance.

6. (a) Correct any *four* of the following sentences :

4×1=4

- (i) My elder brother is a M.A. whereas I am only a B.A.
- (ii) I am debarred to appear at the examination.
- (iii) One should keep his promises.
- (iv) The house is full of furnitures.
- (v) The old man singed a very sweet song.
- (vi) Delhi is a Paris of India.

(b) Use any *two* of the following phrases in your own sentences : $2 \times 2 = 4$

- (i) Bag and baggage
- (ii) Make hay while the sun shines
- (iii) From pillar to post
- (iv) Rank and file
- (v) Neck to neck
- (vi) Rain of shine.

(c) Fill in the blanks with the right alternatives given in the brackets. (any *four*) : $4 \times 1 = 4$

- (i) He puts his heart and into his studies but unfortunately could not pass. (sole / soul)
- (ii) I have to with you on this matter. (defer / differ)
- (iii) Smoking the lungs badly. (affects / effects)
- (iv) The teacher the students (bored / boar)
- (v) Let us go for a this afternoon. (sail / sell)
- (vi) You must your expenses before it is too late. (check / cheque)

(d) Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions. (any *four*) : $4 \times 1 = 4$

(i) She was forced to retire her job.

(ii) We should never laugh the poor.

(iii) Our clothes were soaked water.

(iv) Artists like Kalidas belong all ages and all countries.

(v) We should not jeer a defeated enemy.

(vi) He is his study table.

(e) Give the correct synonyms for any *two* :

$2 \times 1 = 2$

(i) Homage

(ii) Assert

(iii) Blunt

(iv) Benevolent

(v) Compliment.

(Praise, dull, affirm, tribute, charitable).

(f) Give the antonyms of any *two* :

2×1=2

- (i) Obsolete
- (ii) Courageous
- (iii) Collect
- (iv) Desperate
- (v) Dejected.

(Scatter, modern, elated, coward, cautious).

31.01.2017

